A SPLENDID GIFT WITH THIS ISSUE!

8 Extra pages inside!

MARVEL®

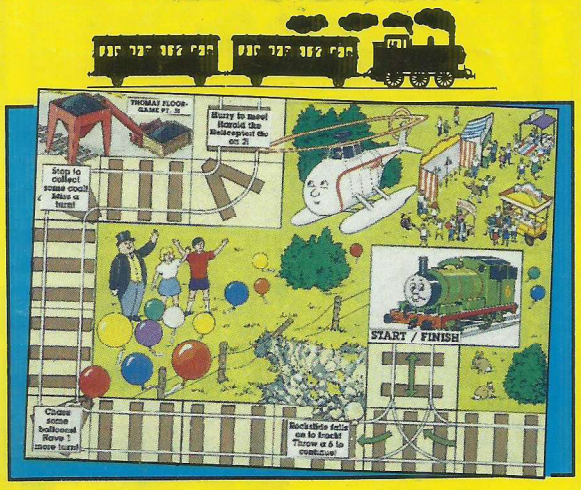
William Heinemann Ltd. 1992

7th Nov 1992
No 132 60p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

A THOMAS GAME COUNTER FOR YOU!



3RD PART THOMAS FLOOR-GAME INSIDE!

PLUS NEW PRE-SCHOOL COMPETITION PART 2

45

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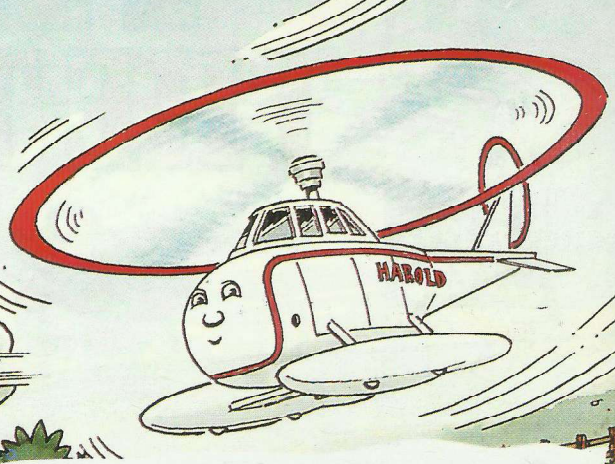
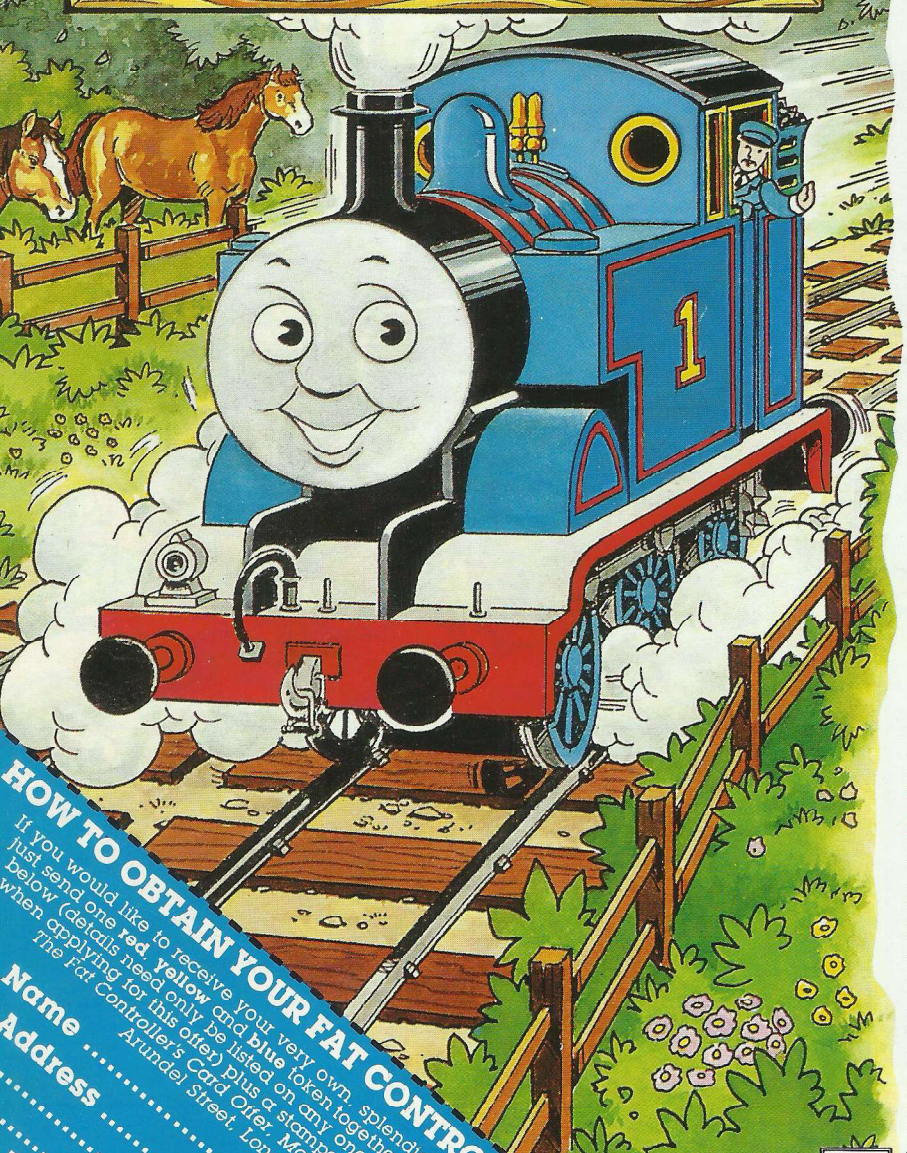
NOTICEBOARD

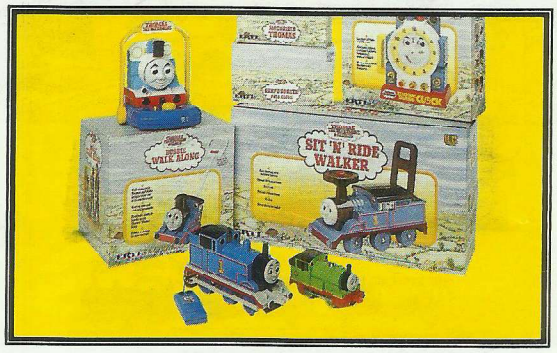
Peep! Peep! There are so many different tasks to do on the Island of Sodor! Each day, the Fat Controller will give each of his engines a special task to do. But who is the most useful of all the Fat Controller's engines? You can find out when you read the story that begins on page 3! Peep! Peep!





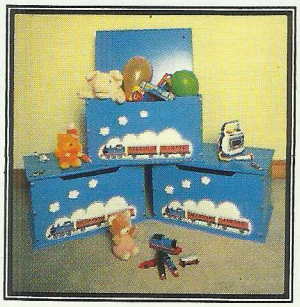
PRE-SCHOOL COMPETITION!

Turn to page **14** to collect the second part of our 2 Part competition featuring a new range of pre-school toys from ***ERTL (UK)*** including **Night Lights, Bubblewalkers** and **Shape sorters**.



OUR NEXT ISSUE!

Don't miss our next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** fortnightly magazine! We will be featuring a fantastic competition where you will be able to win a **Thomas bed**, plus **Toyboxes** (see picture) and **Bedheads**.



HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... **Age** ...

THOMAS TOKEN

ABC

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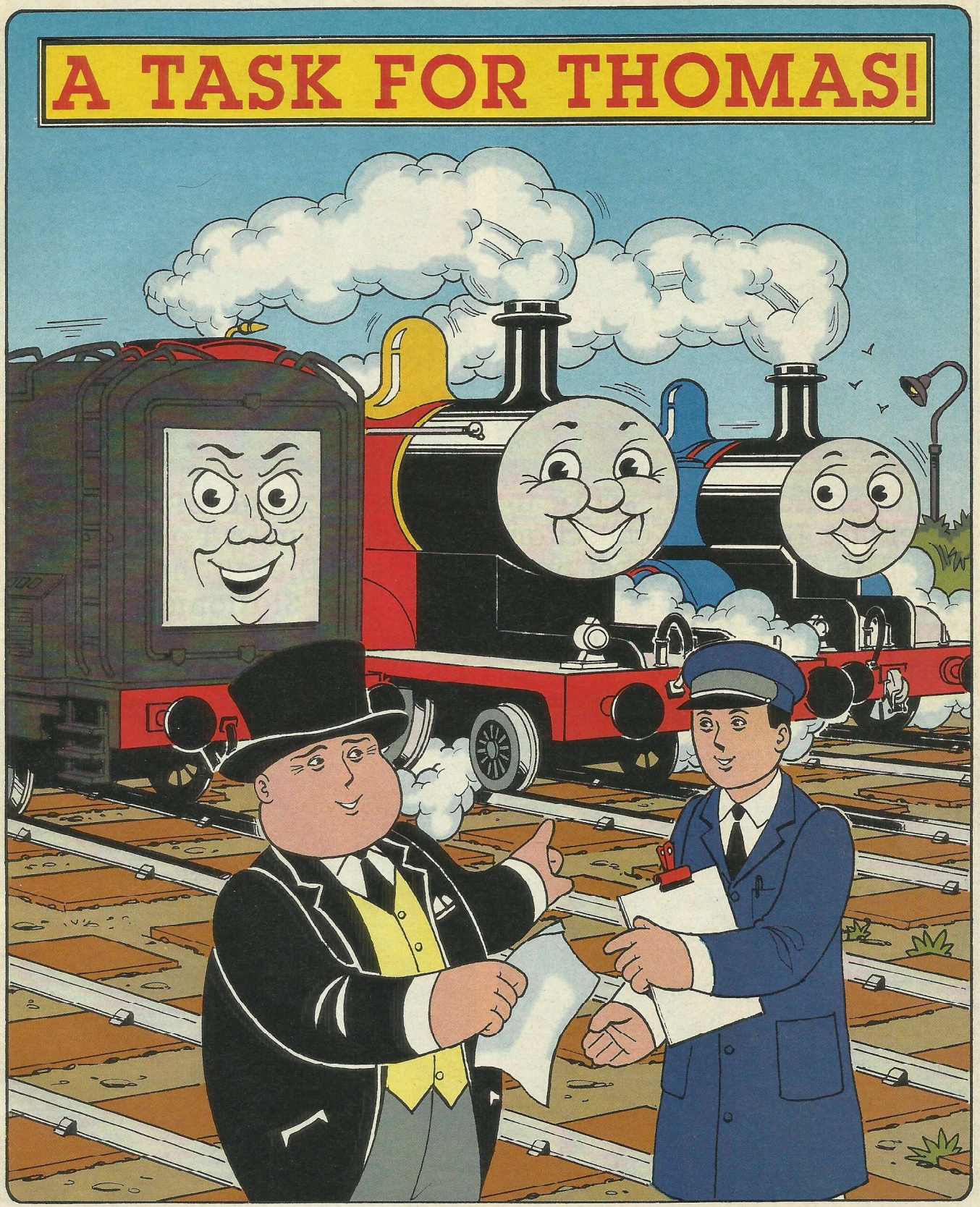
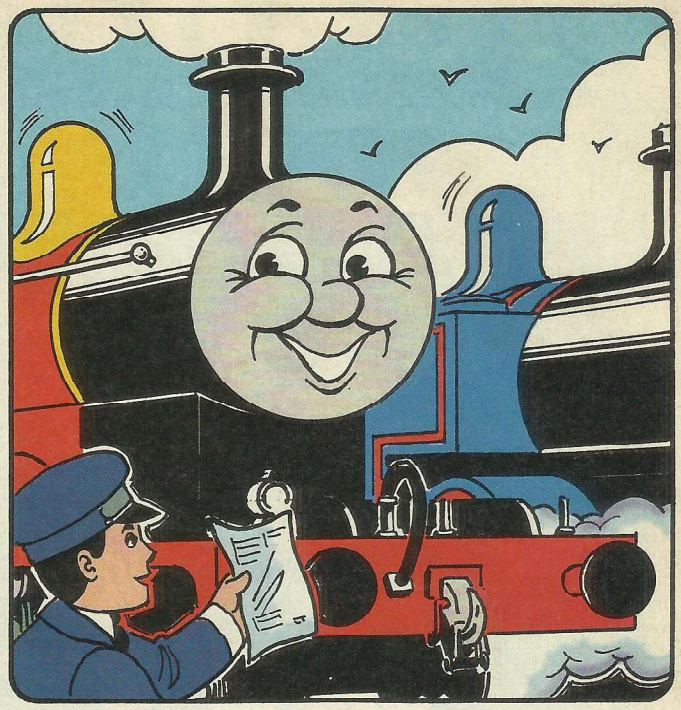
A TASK FOR THOMAS!



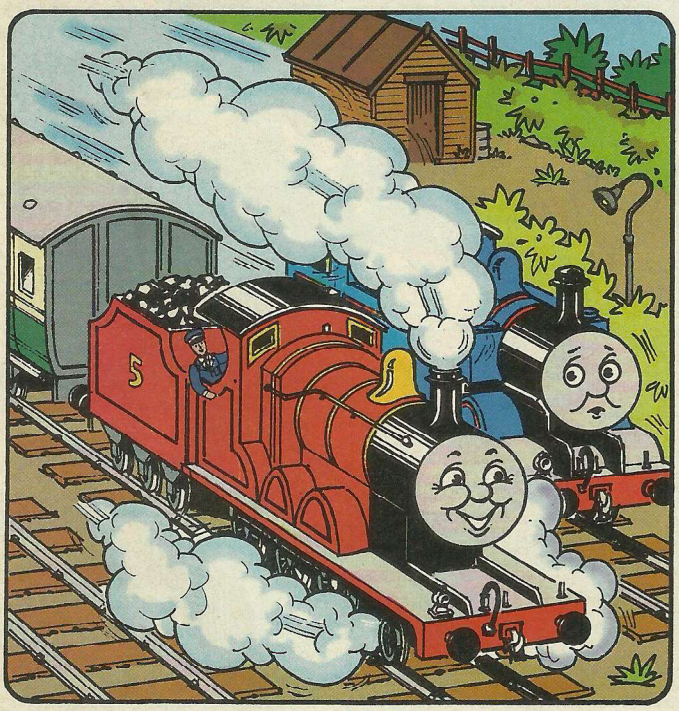
1. One day, the Fat Controller handed a piece of paper to the Stationmaster. "I have written out a list of special tasks for all my engines while I am away this afternoon," he said.

2. When the Fat Controller had left, the Stationmaster told the engines, one by one, what they had been chosen to do. "Only Really Useful Engines are given special tasks!" they agreed.

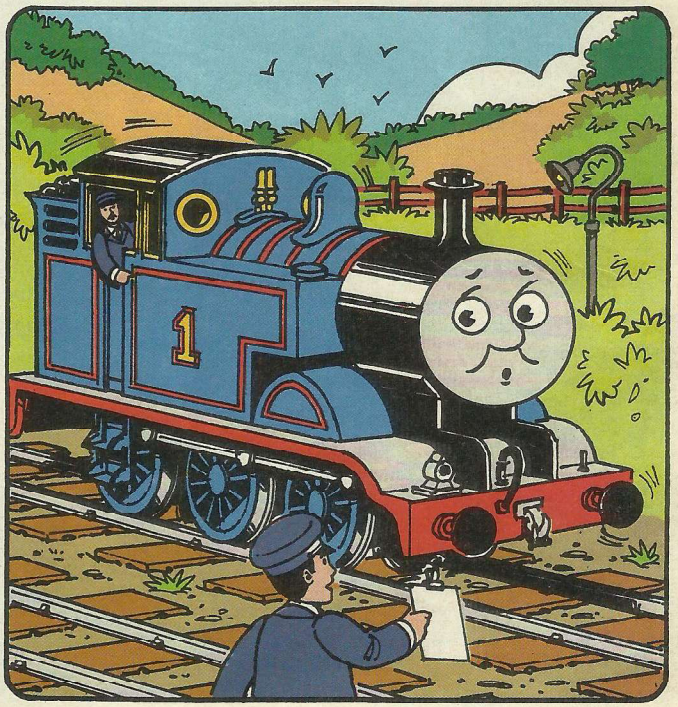
3. The Stationmaster spoke to Diesel first. He was to collect an urgent shipment of timber from the harbour and deliver it to a building site. "Easy!" boasted Diesel, in his oily voice.



4. Diesel raced off. "The Fat Controller knows I am a strong, efficient Diesel!" he sneered. Next, the Stationmaster saw James. "You must take visitors to the Elsworth Museum!" he said.

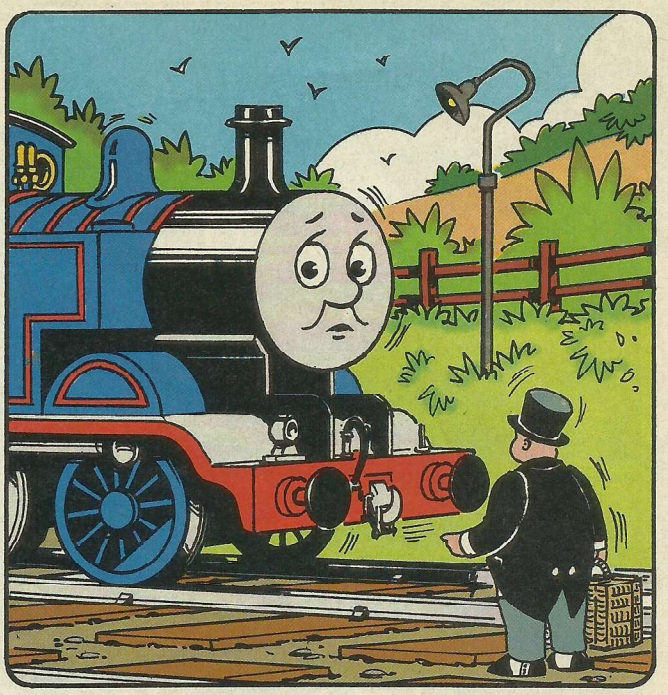


5. "The Fat Controller chose me because I look so splendid with my red paintwork and shiny dome!" James told Thomas. James puffed grandly out of the yard, pulling his carriages.

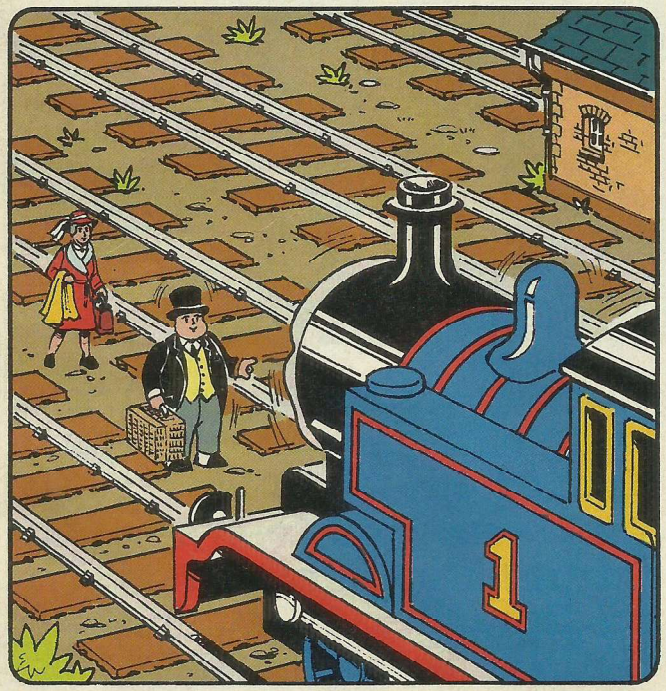


6. Soon every engine had a special task, except Thomas. He stood all alone in the yard. "What about me?" he asked the Stationmaster. "You must wait here Thomas!" he said.

7. Thomas was shocked. "I don't understand!" he huffed. "I am very reliable and I always work hard! There must be a mistake!" The Stationmaster checked the list again but shook his head.



8. Thomas groaned. "The other engines will wonder why I have not been chosen?" he said. "Only busy engines can be Really Useful!" At last the Fat Controller returned.



9. Lady Hatt arrived too. The Fat Controller carried a big basket. "Excuse me, sir!" called Thomas. "I haven't got a special task! What can I do?" Just then, Lady Hatt came to see Thomas.

10. "I'm so pleased Thomas can take the children on the school picnic!" she said. "That's why I kept you here, Thomas!" said the Fat Controller. "Lady Hatt and I are coming on the picnic too!"

11. Thomas was coupled to Annie and Clarabel while the schoolchildren waited excitedly on the platform. Thomas's driver helped load the big basket into Annie. "This is a food hamper Thomas", she said. "Fancy!" thought Thomas. "Lady Hatt wanted me for this special task!" With all his passengers in Annie and Clarabel, Thomas puffed importantly on his way.

12. Thomas stopped near a field along his branch line. Everyone climbed down and the hamper was unloaded. The Fat Controller put a blanket on the ground and Lady Hatt took out the food. Before the picnic, the children played games. So did Thomas. Lady Hatt thanked him for being such a helpful engine. "Mine was the best task of all!" said Thomas proudly.

THE END!

In our next issue: Stubborn Diesel!

PEEP PEEP EVERYONE

ERTL® **From your local toy shop or store.**

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Products shown distributed in the UK by ERTL (UK) Ltd., Exeter, EX2 8RG. Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.
© Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd 1992. **Not recommended for children under 36 months**

The Boy on the Bridge!

Thomas was cheerily pulling the post train. As he puffed along the track, he saw a little boy standing beside a lady on the bridge over the track. The boy waved as Thomas passed underneath.

"Peep! Peep! Hello," whistled Thomas. The boy watched until Thomas puffed on, out of sight. Thomas wondered who the boy was. He had not seen him before. Next day, when Thomas took the post train, the boy and lady were waving from the bridge again. They waited to greet Thomas every morning that week.

Thomas looked forward to seeing his new friends every day. But one morning, when Thomas arrived at the bridge, they were not there. Thomas was puzzled.

"Where have they got to?" Thomas asked his driver.

"I hope they haven't gone away for good!" The driver did not know. Later, Thomas pulled up at the station. Mrs Kyndley was waiting on the platform.

"I've been to the chemist to get some medicine the doctor prescribed for my friend's son, Geoffrey," she told Thomas's driver. "He has a very nasty cough and must stay in bed."

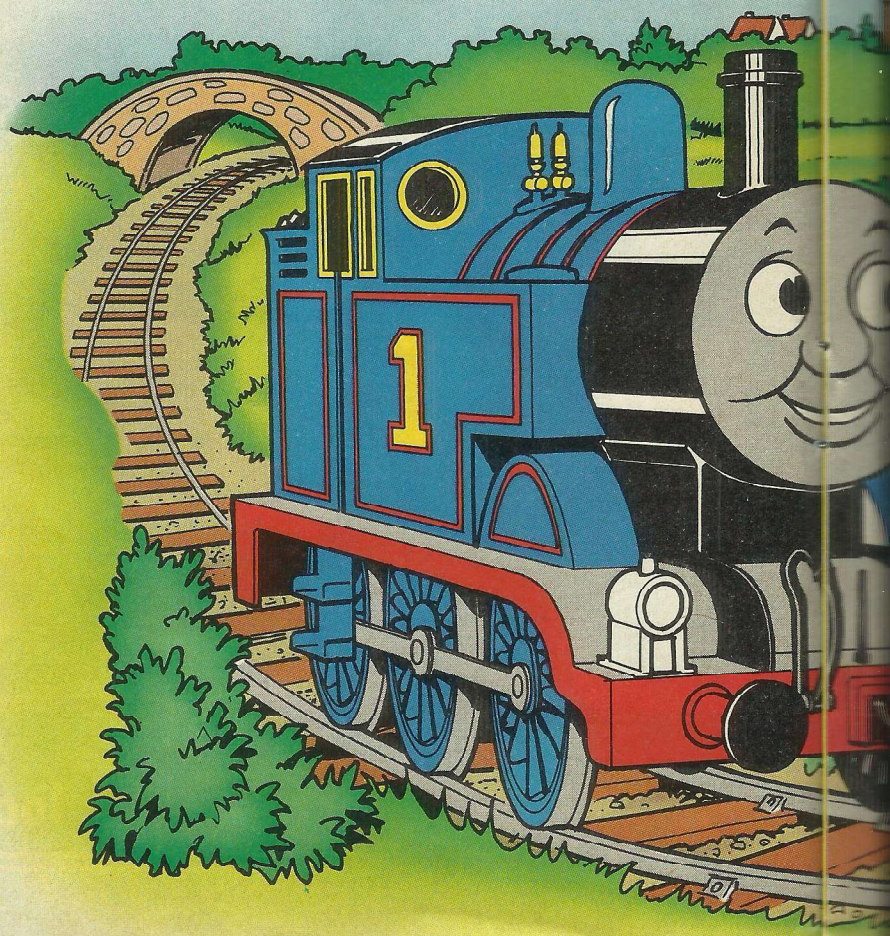
"Does he like engines?" asked Thomas's driver.

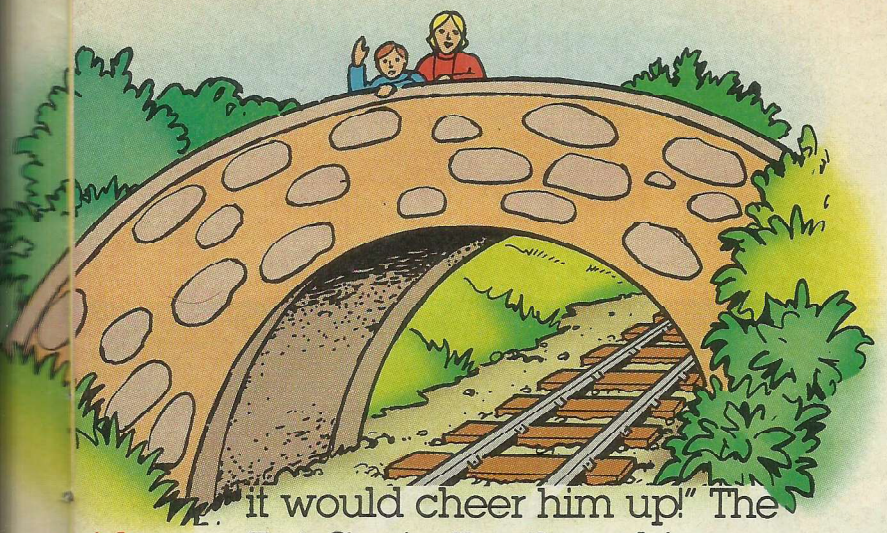
"Yes, especially Thomas!" said Mrs Kyndley. "Geoffrey is sad because he can't go out with his mother and wave to Thomas from the bridge again until he is well."

Thomas was surprised. "Fancy!" he cried. "Mrs Kindley knows my new friend!" Mrs Kyndley explained that Geoffrey's family had recently moved into a cottage, near a side-line.

Thomas returned to the Main Station yard and spoke to the Fat Controller.

"Please, sir! May I visit Geoffrey?" he asked. "I'm sure





bridge

it would cheer him up!" The Fat Controller thought Thomas's idea was splendid. He telephoned Mrs Kyndley who went to tell Geoffrey immediately that Thomas was on his way.

Thomas set off for the side-line. When he arrived, he puffed steadily along until he came to a cottage close to the track. Mrs Kyndley was at an upstairs window. Geoffrey was sitting up in bed and waving excitedly from the window. His mummy waved too. Geoffrey looked very pleased indeed to see the little tank engine.

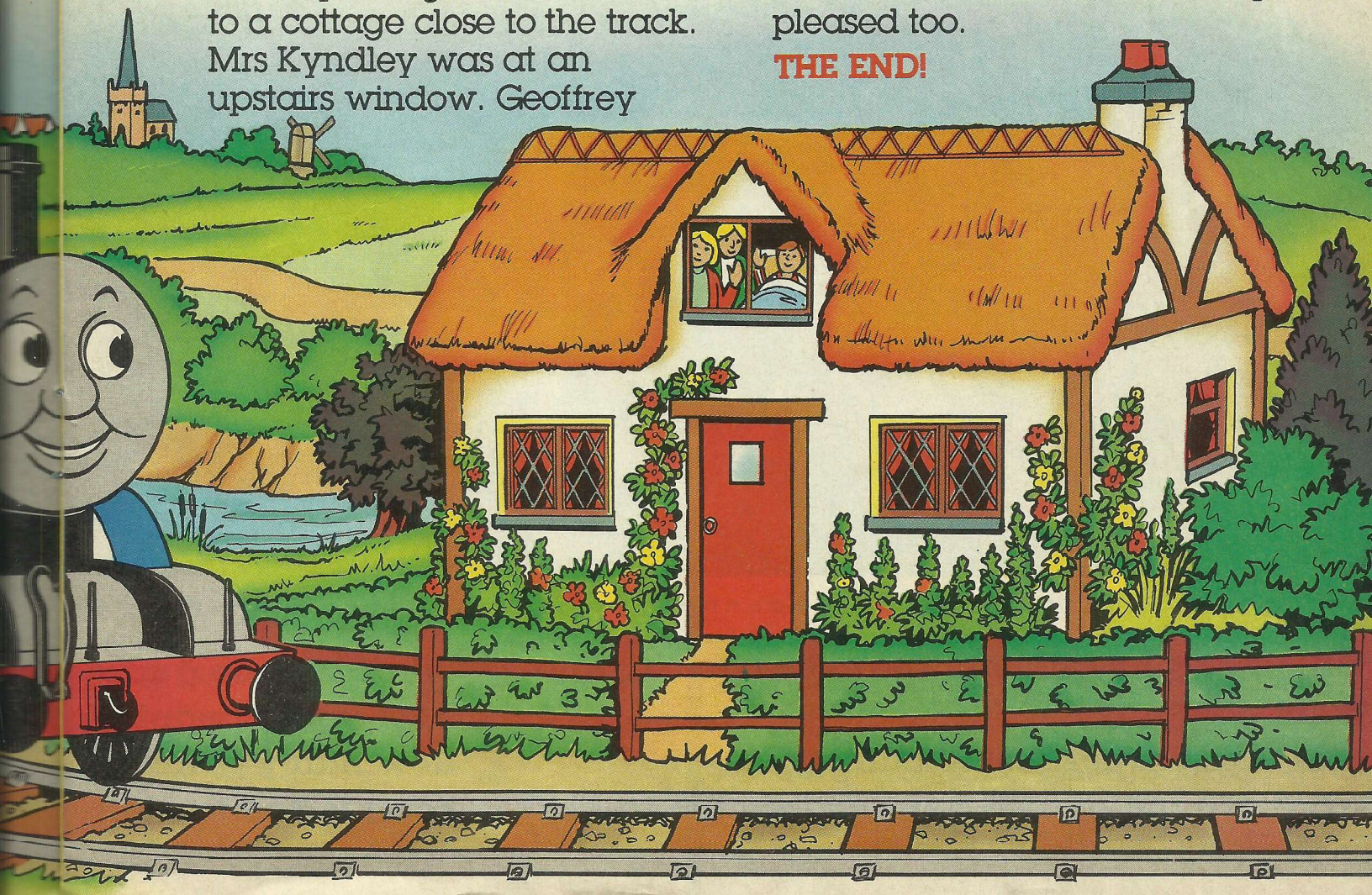
"Peep! Peep! Hurry up and get better!" whistled Thomas. A few days later, Thomas took the post train as usual. When he neared the bridge, Geoffrey was waiting there for him.

"It was very kind of you to visit me, Thomas!" Geoffrey called.

"I feel fine again now, thank you!" Thomas was pleased. He liked to be a kind engine.

"Your visit has made Geoffrey happy again!" said his driver. Thomas looked very pleased too.

THE END!

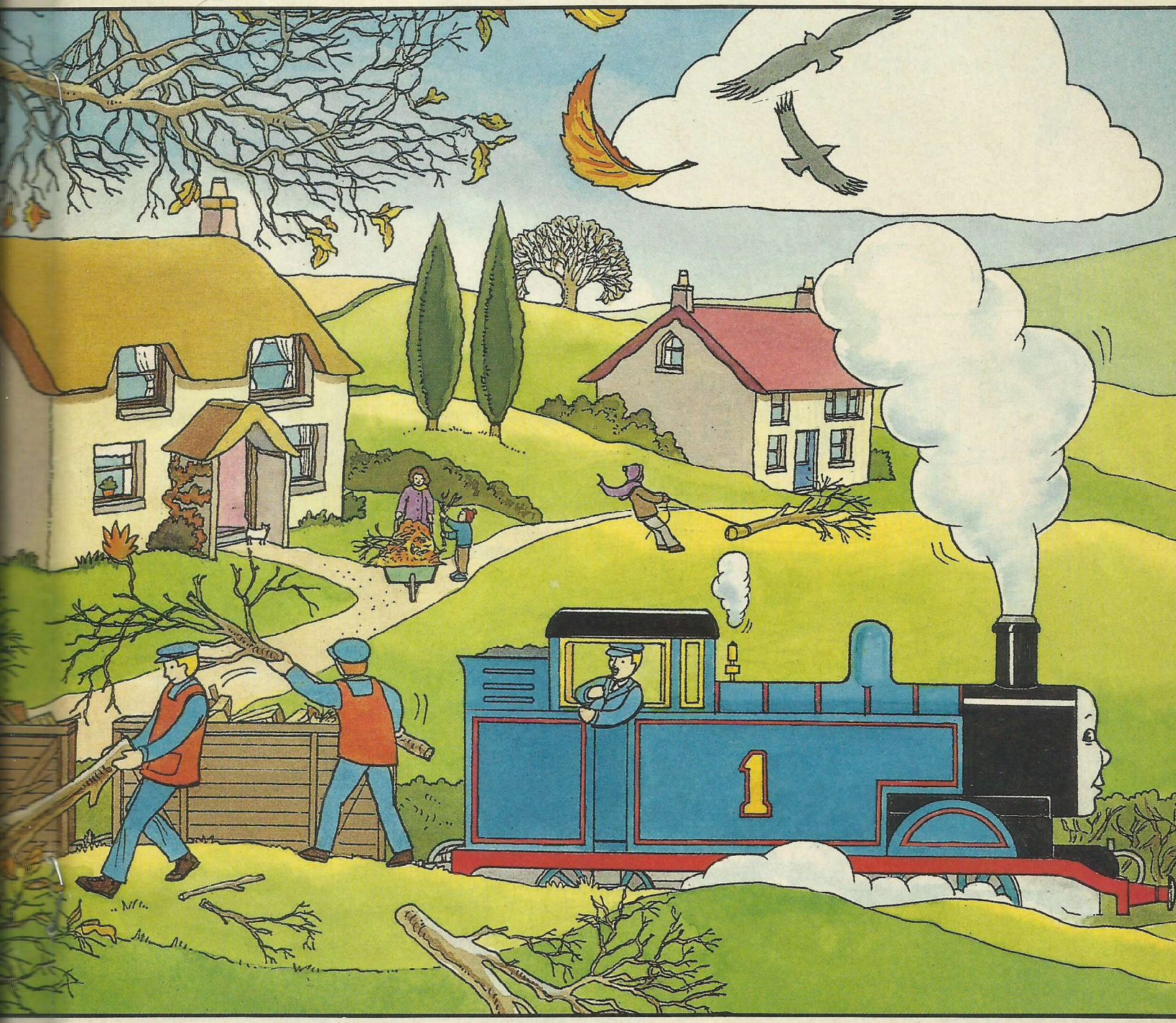


Collecting wood f

Which engine can you see?
What colour is he?
How many trucks is he pulling?
What are the guards loading into the trucks?

What are the guards usi
How many people are h
How many cottages can
Point to the ladder!

for bonfire night!



rds using to cut the tree branches?

are helping the guards?

es can you see?

r!

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a **'mural page'** in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Past the Football Match!

COLOURING TIME!

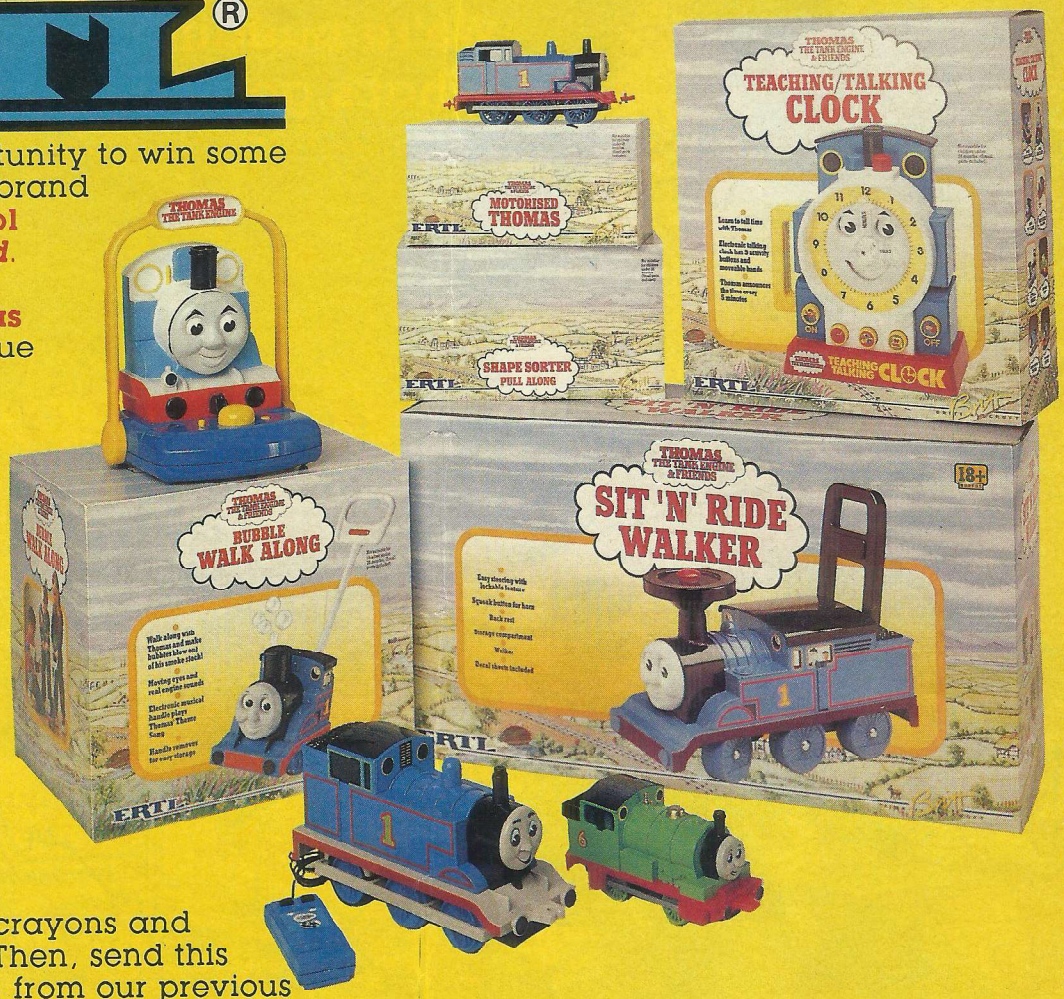
Picnicking in the country can be such fun,
Now colour Thomas and his friends, one by one!

JOIN THE DOTS!

We're building up a big bonfire,
What's going on to make it higher?

COMPETITION! PART No.2

ERTL®



Here is a unique opportunity to win some fabulous prizes from a brand new range of **Pre-school toys** from ***ERTL (UK) Ltd.*** 1st Prize winners will receive one of **6 Thomas Night Lights** (retail value £29.99 and featured opposite). 2nd prize winners will receive **6 Thomas Bubblewalkers** (retail value £19.99 and featured opposite). 3rd prize winners will receive **12 Shape Sorters!** (retail value £6.99). All you have to do to enter this splendid competition is colour in the picture below, using your brightest pens or crayons and complete the coupon. Then, send this page along with part 1 from our previous issue, to *Thomas/ERTL Pre-School Colouring Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2 3DX.*

PARENT/GUARDIAN
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms
Surname.....
Address.....
.....
.....Postcode.....
Child's Name.....

Boy☐ Girl☐

Surname.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....Postcode.....

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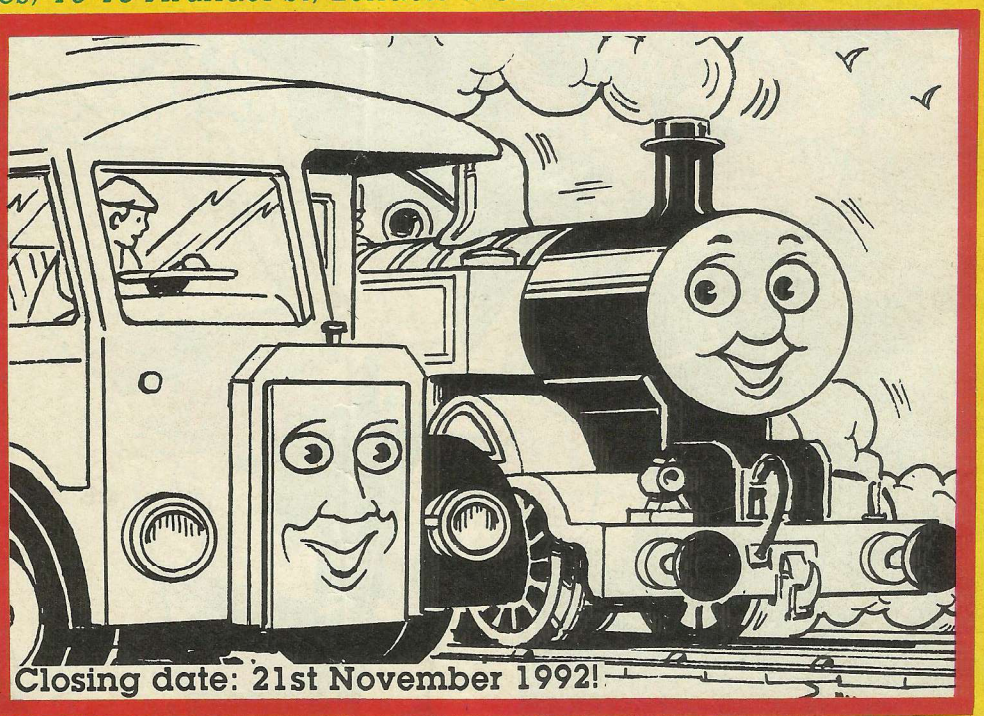
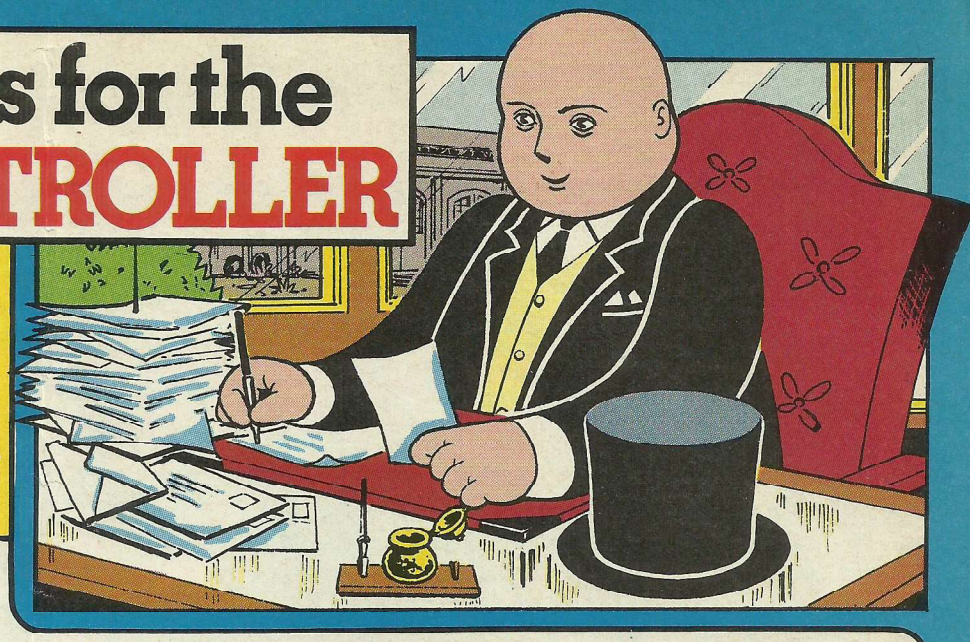


Closing date: 21st November 1992!

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of ERTL (UK) Ltd., Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, and Marvel Comics Ltd. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

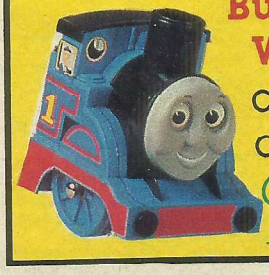
STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like reading **Thomas the Tank Engine** stories. I especially enjoyed reading about the little weather vane! We live near **Bushey Station** and it has a train engine like a weather vane too!

Love from **Robin Willis**, aged 6.

Yes! I do remember that story very well indeed. The engines did agree that it was a very clever idea of mine to replace the damaged weather vane with one that was shaped like an engine!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win this splendid **Thomas Bubble Walker** courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*



FAVOURITE STORIES!

Dear Fat Controller,
My favourite stories always have Thomas and Trevor in them! What is your favourite story?

Love from **Jamie**, aged 4.

Well! Thomas has so many exciting adventures with all his friends but one particular story that I often remember is when Thomas and Bertie first raced each other across the Island of Sodor! Now, that was splendid!

SLEEPY ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I would like to know how the trains rest?

Love from **Catherine Jones**, aged 3.

Well Catherine! All of my engines have their own special engine sheds to rest in after they have finished all their work for the day!

BIRTHDAYS!

Adam Stroughair, Dean J.Anderson (39235), Christopher Bloodworth, Kenneth Dunn, Talan Richards, Benjamin Newman, Alan Humphrey, Thomas McClelland, Rory Feaver, Christopher Thomas, John Hamilton (20646), James Reed (31457)

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least nine weeks in advance!

Yours

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
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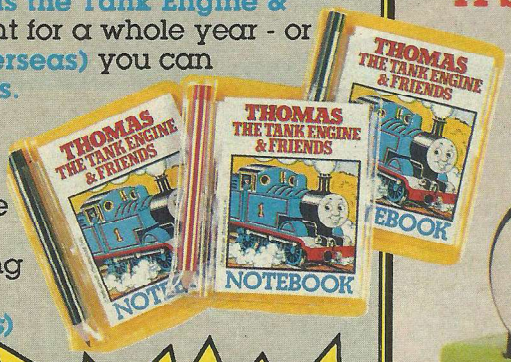
Subscribe to Thomas's very own magazine and receive a splendid diecast model of Percy from ERTL®

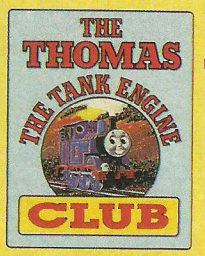
For just £18.00 (35.00 overseas), your child will be sent Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends every fortnight for a whole year - or for £10.00 (£18.00 overseas) you can subscribe for 6 months. Additionally, if you subscribe for a whole year (UK subscribers only) you will receive a FREE Percy diecast model plus a charming notebook and pencil (see opposite pictures) and personalised Fat Controller's Card enabling you to enter offers and competitions frequently open to Fat Controller's Card holders. Simply fill out the appropriate form below!



PLUS JOIN THE THOMAS CLUB... DETAILS BELOW!

A SPLENDID GIFT FOR YOU!

THOMAS CLUB FORM ▼



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Address.....
.....Postcode.....
Donor's name.....
Address.....
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Date of birth.....Boy/Girl.

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My card number is (13 or 16 digits):

Expiry date.....

Signature.....Date.....

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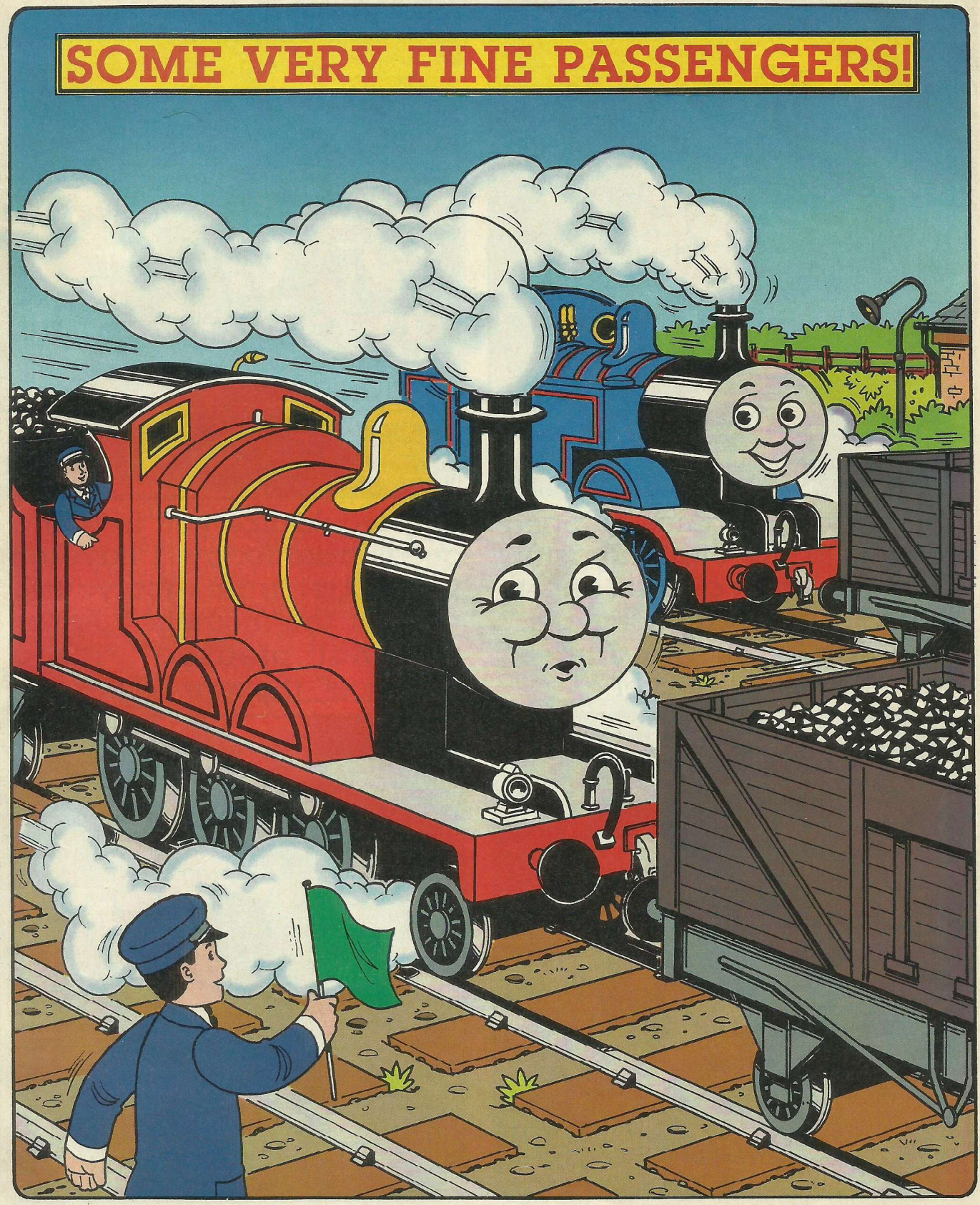
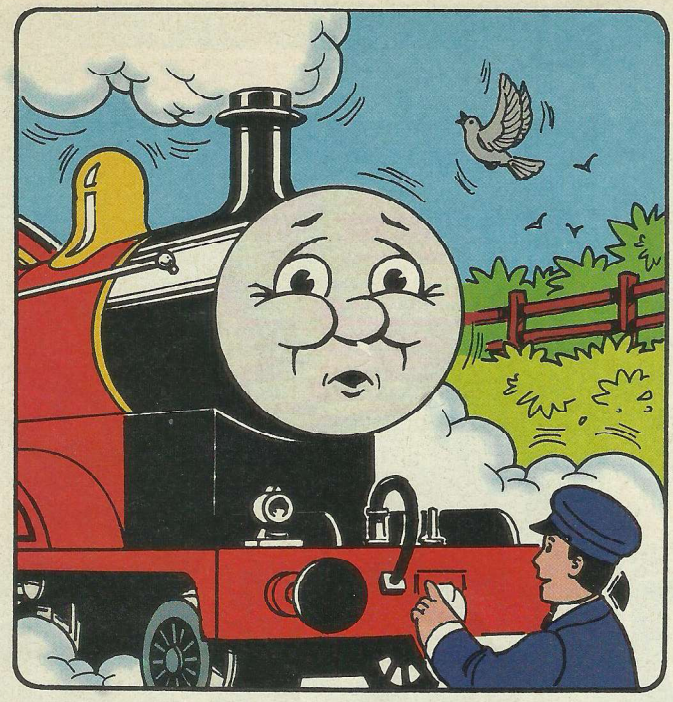
To apply for either subscription please fill out the appropriate section above and send this form, together with a cheque/postal order or credit card details to: Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester LE99 0AA.

SOME VERY FINE PASSENGERS!



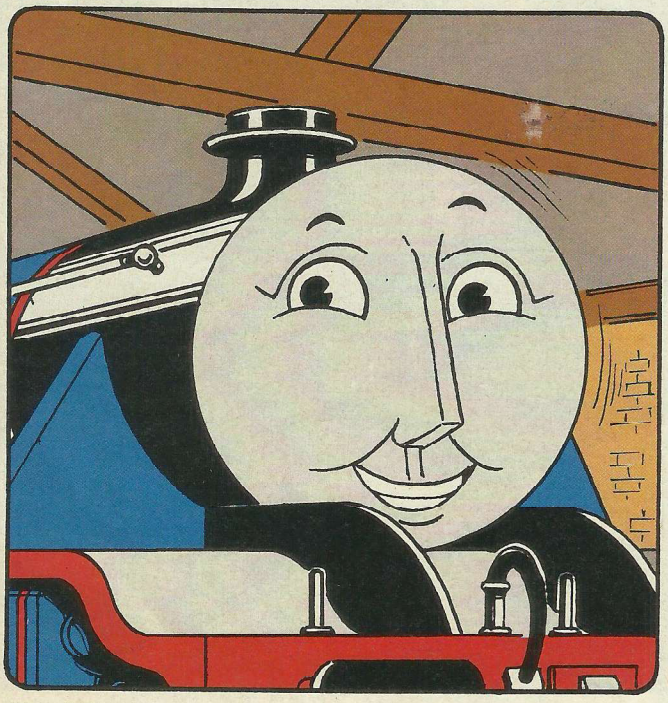
1. James works on the Fat Controller's railway on the Island of Sodor. He is a shiny red engine with a brass dome and is a splendid sight for passengers to see.

2. James usually pulls goods trains or shunts trucks in the yard, but his favourite work is pulling passenger trains. James much prefers coaches to dirty old trucks.

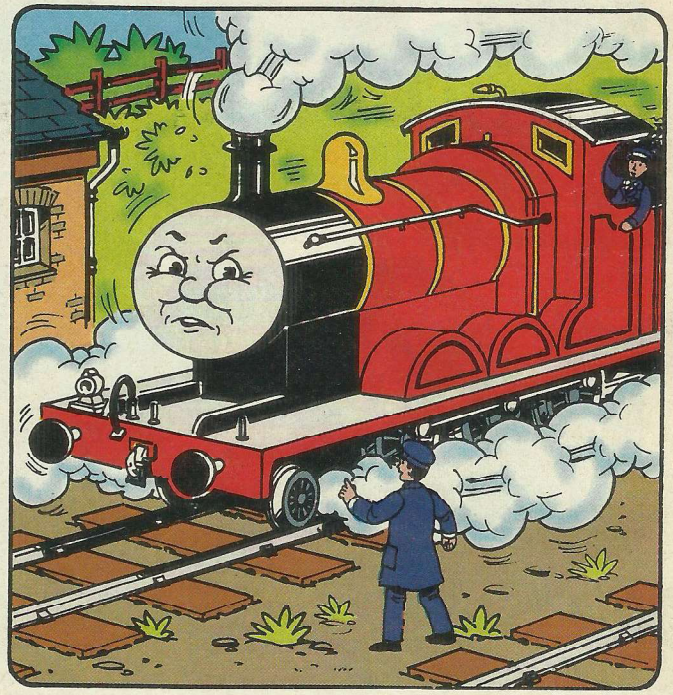


3. One day, James stopped to talk to the Stationmaster. "May I pull a passenger train? I'm tired of trucks." said James. "Sorry, James!" said the Stationmaster.

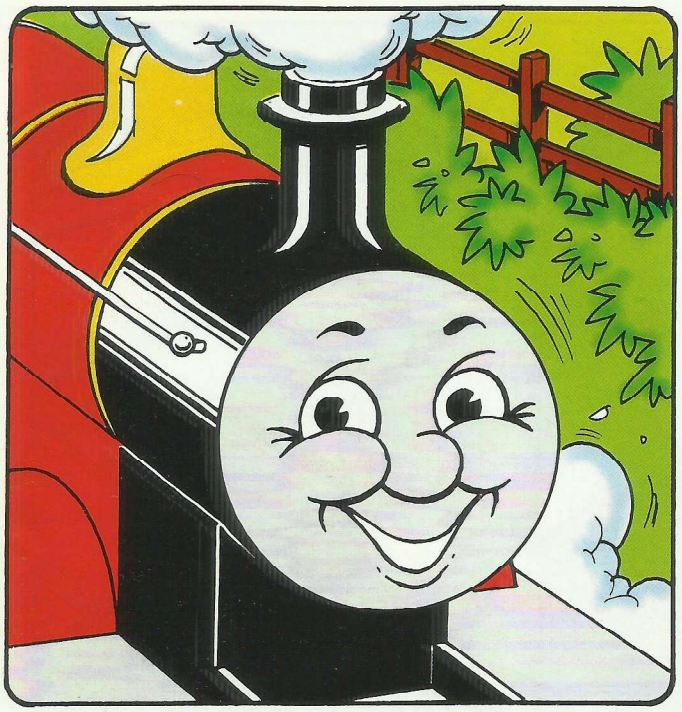
4. "I would like you to pull a goods train today. I have no passenger trains for you to pull, at the moment." James was not pleased. "It's a disgrace!" thought James.



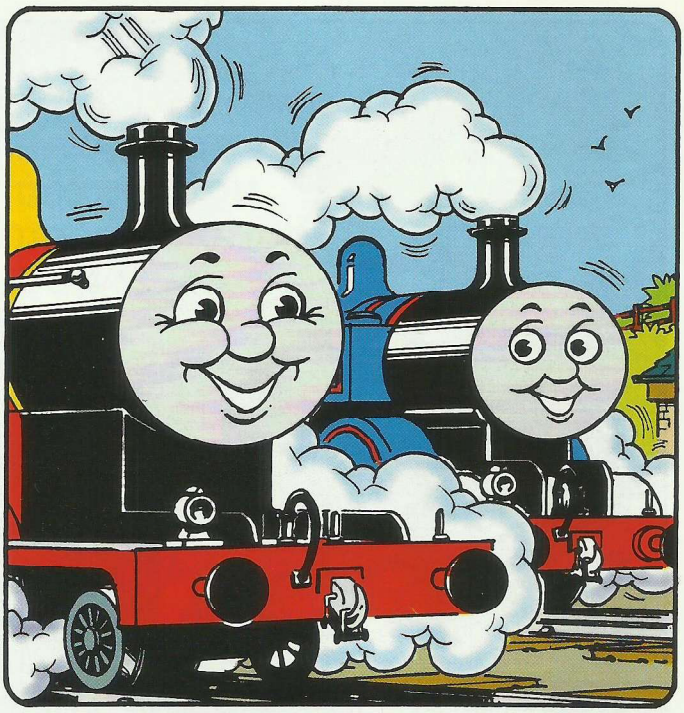
5. "Pulling goods trains is not so terrible," said Duck. "James has ideas above his station," said Gordon. "He thinks he's a more important engine than he really is!"



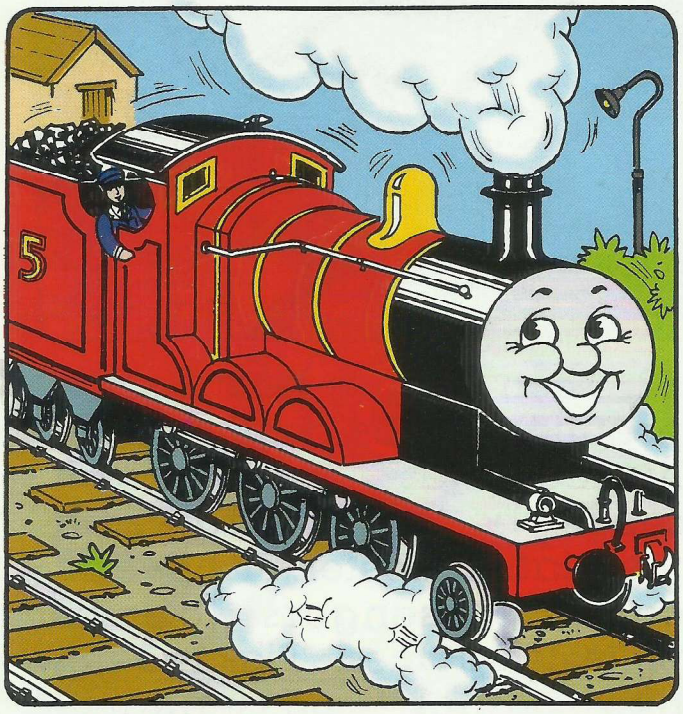
6. Still James complained. "I should pull passengers!" he moaned. The Stationmaster did not like his engines to grumble. He decided to teach James a lesson.



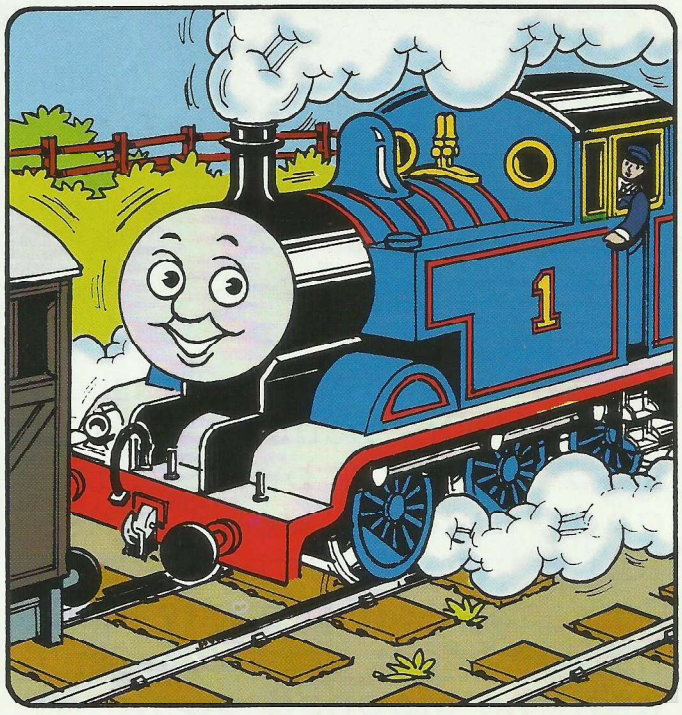
7. One day he said, "I shall have some passengers for you tomorrow, James." James was so excited. He couldn't wait to tell the other engines.



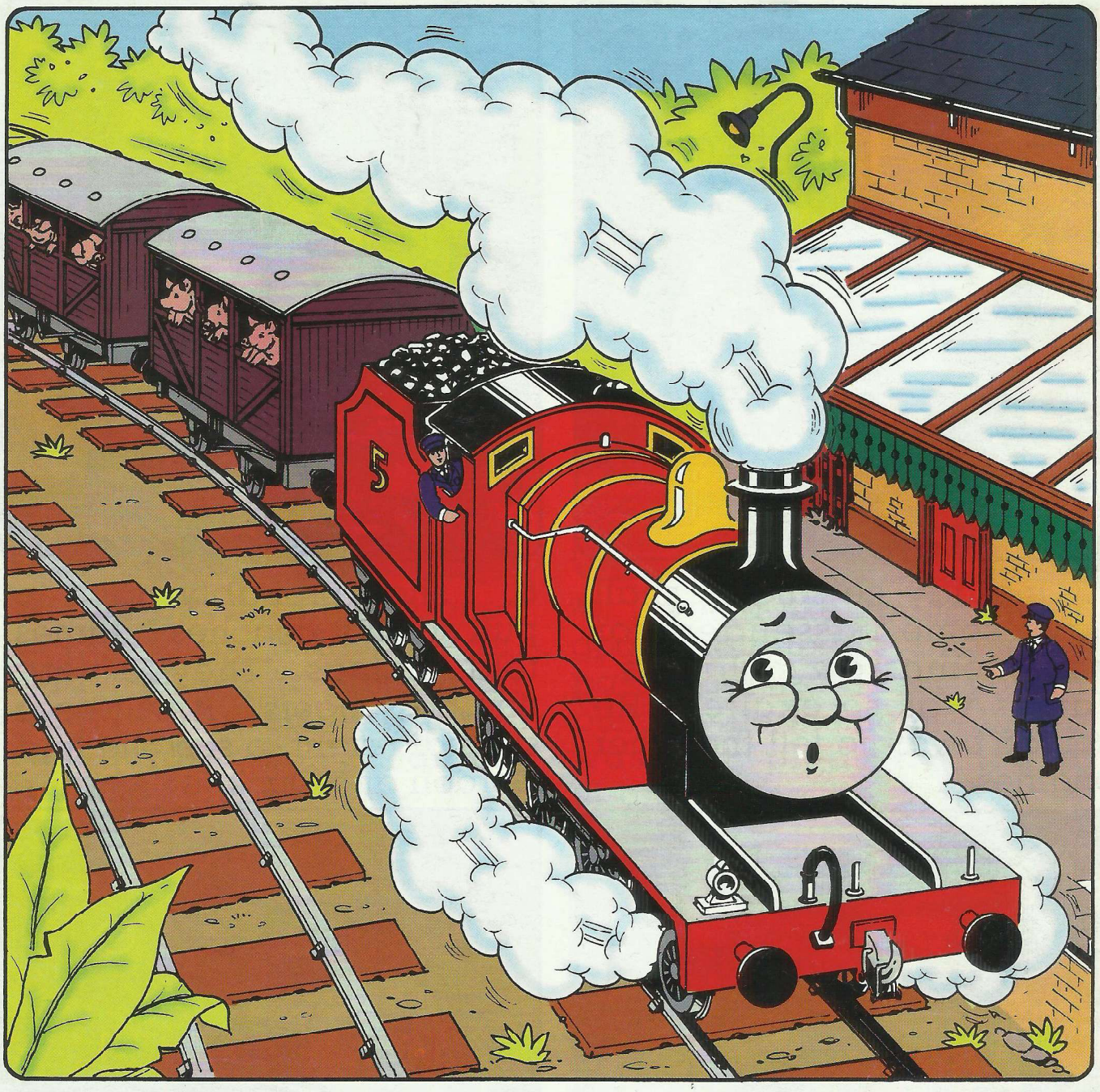
8. "I shall probably have to pull special coaches," James told Thomas. "They're very fine passengers!" "It will be a splendid sight to see!" he told Gordon and Duck.



9. The next day James was in the yard bright and early. At last Thomas arrived with his coaches. "Come along!" said James. "The passengers must not be kept waiting!"



10. James could not see the coaches as Thomas brought them up behind him, but he felt very proud as they were coupled up to him. Thomas began to giggle.



11. "What's so funny?" asked James. "Oh, nothing at all," said Thomas, but Gordon and Duck were also laughing. Nevertheless, James set off proudly with his passenger train. It wasn't until he stopped again at the station platform that James realised something was not right. No passengers got off and none got on.

12. Then, James heard some peculiar noises coming from his coaches. "James, you should be in the yard," said the Stationmaster. "I have to carry passengers today," protested James. "Pigs are not like other passengers!" laughed the Stationmaster. "Pigs!" sighed James as he went to the yard. Now he was sorry he had been so proud.

THE END!

In our next issue: The Visitor!